can be challenged under those laws. Further, rights thereunder are restricted to the territorial boundary of that country. Whenever information is received about patents being taken on certain products which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether grant of patent can be challenged. An exercise is going on to assess whether the grant of this patent can be challenged.

एच०एम०टी०, अजमेर के कर्मचारियों को बकाया राशि का भुगतान

2065. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावतः** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या एच०एम०टी० अजमेर स्वैच्छिक सेवानिवृत्ति लेने वाले तथा साथ ही अधिवर्षिता की आयु प्राप्त करने वाले कर्मचारियों को भविष्य निधि, ग्रेच्युटी, छुट्टी नकदीकरण तथा एक माह के सेटलमेन्ट भत्ते का भुगतान अभी तक नहीं किया गया है;

(ख) उक्त राशि कब से बकाया है;

(ग) क्या एच०एम०टी० को सरकार से उक्त राशि प्राप्त हो चुकी है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) सेवानिवृत्ति कर्मचारियों को बकाया राशि का भुगतान कब तक कर दिया जाएगा?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) एच०एम०टी० की अजमेर यूनिट के कर्मचारियों को जो सेवानिवृत्ति की आयु पूरी होने पर सेवानिवृत्त हुए हैं को देय राशि बकाया नहीं है। वीआरएस के तहत सेवानिवृत्त हुए कर्मचारियों को देयराशि नीचे दी गई है:—

सं०			देयराशि (रुपए)	
(i)	1	भविष्य निधि	59597	
		उपदान	35221	
		लीव इनकेशमेन्ट	247	
		सेटलमेन्ट भत्ता	3213	
				98278
(ii)	5	भविष्य निधि	शून्य	
		उपदान	588167	
		लीव इनकेशमेन्ट	109602	
		सेटलमेंन्ट भत्ता	37732	
				735501
		कुलः—		833779

(ख) ऊपर (i) में उल्लिखित पूर्व कर्मचारी के मामले में, उत्तराधिकार प्रमाणपत्र के मामले में जिला एवं सत्र न्यायधीश द्वारा लगाए गए रोक के मद्देनजर 30.5.1992 से राशि देय है। ऊपर (ii) में उल्लिखित 15 कर्मचारियों में से 12 कर्मचारियों के मामले में 31.3.1998 से भुगतान देय है और शेष 3 के मामले में 30.6.98 से देय है।

(ग और (घ) गत 3 वित्तीय वर्षों के दौरान भारत सरकार ने वी आर एस के उद्देश्य के लिए एचएमटी को राशि निम्नानुसार जारी की है:—

वर्ष	राशि (रुपए लाख में)
1996-97	1850
1997-98	2550
1998-99	1610

एचएमटी फिर इन निधियों को अपनी विभिन्न इकाईयों में वितरित करती है। कभी-कभी सरकार द्वारा दी गई राशि से वी आर एस के लिए आवेदन अधिक हो जाते हैं जिसके लिए वह दी जाती हैं।

(ङ) ऊपर (i) में वर्णित कर्मचारी के मामले में, चूंकि, मामला न्यायालय के अधीन है इसलिए निर्णय प्राप्त होने पर ही भुगतान किया जा सकेगा। शेष 15 मामलों में एचएमटी शीघ्र ही भुगतान करेगी।

Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Ltd. Kota

2066. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise total value of production in terms of crores of rupees made by

Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Ltd., Kota during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97, alongwith the year-wise profit or loss thereof;

(b) whether Government are contemplating formulation of any scheme for improving the performance of Rajasthan Eectronics and Instruments Ltd., Kota;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) what afforts are being made to reduce the cost as wall as to improve the quality of equipment produced in the said company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) Value of production and profits made by Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Ltd., Jaipur (REIL) during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as follows;

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Production	Profit before tax
1995-96	11.43	8.18
1996-97	16.94	0.02

(b) and (c) The Company has entered into manufacture of electronic energy maters with Government assistance, In addition, the Company is diversifying into Information Technology.

(d) REIL has been able to improve quality by installing quality systems for which the Company has been accredited with ISO-9001 certificate. Further, the Company has been able to reduce cast of production by introduction of value based techniques and improvement in procurement of raw materials.

Protection to Small Scale Units

2067. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small scale units functioning in the country as on 31th January, 1999;

(b) the State-wise details of units closed and the number of such units running in losses, separately, out of it; and

(c) the steps taken, so far, by Government to give full protection to the Small Scale industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) Since registration of small scale units is voluntary such data are not being maintained. However, Government have conducted a census of registered small scale units for the base year 1987-88 which revealed that out of 9,86,861 units registered upto 31.3.88 the number of closed units were 3,04,856. The state-wise break-up of registered and closed units is given in the statement. (*See below*)

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps from time to time to give full protection to small scale industries in the country which include (i) policy measures for reservation of items for exclusive manufacture in small scale sector, (ii) Reservation of items for exclusive purchase from SSI Sector by Government (iii) marketing support through National Small industries Coporation. State Small industries Development Corporation, (iv) fiscal concessions in the form of excise relief, (v) entrepreneurship development, (vi) technical support through inspection, guidance, workshop facilities, testing centres Tool Rooms and Product-cum-Process Development Centres, (vii) infrastructural support by the State Government through developed industrial plots, sheds (viii) Cradit to SSI under priority sector lending programme of the banks, financial and equity support through financial institutions.